Morbus Satanicus.

The DEVILS DISEASE.

OR

The Sin of Pride Arraigned and Condemned.

Isa. 3. 16. *The daughters of* Sion *are haughty, and walk with ſtretched out necks, and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet.*

The 25 Edition, with many Additions.

By *William Jones*, Student in Divinity.

on, Printed, by *W. L.* and *T. F.* for *W. Thacker*,

Behold this was the iniquity of thy ſiſter *Sodom*, pride, and fulneſs of bread, and abundance of Idleneſs was in her daughters, neither did ſhe ſtrengthen the hands of the poor and needy.

THeſe words, my Beloved, may very well be compared and applyed to theſe laſt & worſt of times wherein we live, for if ever any Scripture was fulfilled, this very Scripture is fulfilled among us at this day: For behold this is the iniquity of England, pride & fulneſs of bread in her and in her children: The daughters of England are proud and haughty, and walking with ſtretched forth necks, & naked breaſts, walking & mincing as they go. I need not trouble my ſelf much to prove this aſſertion, the Lord knows the truth of it is too too manifeſt among us in theſe our days, for now, as the Prophet ſaith, Ezek. 7. Behold the day, behold it is come, behold it is come, the rod hath bloſſomed, pride hath budded, & violence is riſen up in a rod of wickedneſs. The people of England have lifted themſelves up, and have prided themſelves in their greatneſs, the pride of England, as it was ſaid of Iſrael, Hoſ. 5. 5. doth teſtifie againſt it to its face. In the words of the

Next we have the Prophet testifying against the Pride of the Israelites, comparing it with the sins of Sodom, and the iniquity of Sodom you know was great; the sins here mentioned are first Pride, then fulness of Bread, and abundance of idleness; Pride is the leading sin of all.

Now the sin of pride is either inward in the heart, or else outward in the body, & that in 5 particulars. First in the speech, Dan. 4. 30. Is not this great Babylon that I have built (saith Nebuchadnezzar) for the house of my Kingdom and for the honour of my Majesty. Secondly, Pride in the looks, Prov. 6. 17. A proud look and a lying tongue the Lord hates. David saith Psa. 131. 1. My heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty. Thirdly, Pride is in the habit and apparel of the body; thus Herods pride appeared, Act. 12. 21. *Herod* arrai'd himself in gorgeous apparel. So likewise the rich man, Luk. 16. 19. cloathed himself in purple, and fared deliciously every day. Fourthly, Pride is in the gesture and carriage of the body, Isa. 3. 16. The daughters of Sion are haughty, & walk with stretched out necks, and wanton eyes, mincing and tinkling with their feet as they go. Fifthly, Pride is oftentimes in the actions. Isa. 3. 5. The Child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient. Neh. 9. 10, 15. The children of *Israel* dealt proudly, they and their Fathers, & hearkened not to the Commandments of the Lord. So

So likewise pride is oftentimes seen in mens curious and over-costly feasting and pompous adorning of their house more then modesty, lawful delight, and necessity doth require, & this sin now is very common among us at this day, now the sinfulness & wickedness of the sin of pride, blinds & hardens the minds & hearts of men & women, Dan. 5.30. Nebuchadnezzars heart was lifted up, and his mind so blinded with pride, that he was not only deposed from his Throne, but also driven from among the Sons of men, and his heart made like the beasts: he was so blinded that he became brutish, and his dwelling was with wild Asses, & he was fed with grass like Oxen. 2ly. Pride sets men in opposition against God, in other sins men run away from God, but pride is a coming against God; in other sins men fly from God, but in the sin of pride men fly upon God, Jam. 4.2 6. God resisteth the proud, men do not resist till they are set upon, when thieves set upon true men, they will if they be able make resistance, so proud persons set upon God, & as much as in them lies, endeavor to pull God out of heaven; this was the Devils sin, which cast him out of heaven, Psal. 73.9 Proud men set their mouths against heaven.

3dly pride is the fountain & root of all other sins: Absalom's pride carried him on to rebellion against his own father, it was Asha-

liah's pride that put her upon slaying the sæd Royal, that so she her self might reign, 1 Kings 22. Pro. 13. 13. saith Solomon, Only by Pride cometh contention. All the contentions that e-verhave bæn, or at this day are, either in law-suits, or families, or in trading or whatsoever contentions there are, these do all spring from pride, and as covetousness is the root of all evil, so pride is the nurse of all covetousness; did not mens hearts run so much after pride there might be more love than there is: and men næd not be so covetous after riches and so desirous afer gorgeous apparel as they are: pride carries men forth into the very height of all iniquity: It was Hamans pride that put him upon sæking and plotting the death of all the Jews in Babylon.

Fourthly, Pride makes men like the devil, it's Morbus Satanicus, The Devils Disease, and far worse than the French, or any other foul disease: the devil was the first that ever provided it against God, pride made the devil to be a devil, he was first an Angel in heaven, but through his pride against God, he was cast down to hell, and so became a devil, 1 Tim. 3. 6. Ministers of God should not be novices, saith the Apostle, lest being lifted up with pride they fall in condemnation of the devil: Therefore God many times to prevent this sin of pride, suffers the devil to buffet even

his own children, as he did St. Paul. 2. Cor. 12. 7. God had rather see his Children buffeted by Satan, than smell with the abominable Sin of Pride.

Fifthly, Pride is the sin that maketh God abhor men Pro. 16. 5. Every one that is proud, is an abomination to the Lord, and though hand joyn in hand, saith the Lord, pride shall not go unpunished. A proud look is one of the things which God hates, Prov. 6. 19. Gods hatred is against proud men, 19. 16. Proud persons are accursed. God delights in nothing more than his glory, and hates nothing more than pride, which would, if permitted by him, rob him of his glory.

Sixthly, Pride is an utter enemy to future and everlasting happiness and salvation of men, 1 Cor. 8. 2. He that thinks he knows any thing, that is, he that is proudly conceited of himself, that man (saith the Apostle) knows nothing as he ought to know. Proud persons think they know something if not all things, but Gods Word saith, Men must become fools that they may be made wise, that is, men must deny themselves, and go to Christ for wisdom, righteousness, redemption, grace, life, and salvation, but proud persons will not do this; ye will not come to me, saith Christ, John 5. 40. that ye might have life. Men that are proud & self-conceited, are not for coming to Christ

he that comes to Christ must deny himself, forsake all, which I am sure no proud persons will be willing to do: honour and greatness, and outward bravery, they are the things which proud persons look after; so they may be proud, fine, and brave, 'tis no matter for any thing else, therefore 'tis twice recorded in Scripture, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble, Jam. 4. 5. 1 Pet. 5. 5. Proud persons (like full stomachs) loath the honey-comb of Grace.

Seventhly, Pride brings heavy calamities and sore judgments, both upon the persons & places where it is exercised, Pro. 15. 25. The Lord will destroy the proud. *Haman* and *Achitophel* were proud persons, and God destroyed them and their houses. Herod was a proud person, and the Angel of the Lord smote him and he was eaten to death of worms, Acts 12. 23. When that are haughty & proud, God will bring them down. Nebuchadnezzar was a high tree, his top reached up to heaven, Dan. 4. 11. He was proud and haughty, but what became of him, he was cut down: so Pharaoh and the Egyptians were full of pride and cruelty, and what followed, Exod. 15. 29. they in all their pride and glory, were overwhelmed in the Sea. So likewise Saul, he waxed proud and rebellious against God and the Lord rejected him, & cut him off by the Philistines, 1 Sam. 31. So like-

likewise Ahab, 1 King 22. So Belshazzar lifted himself up against the Lord, and presently a hand was seen writing his doom upon the wall, and that very night was slain. Proud persons, whoever they are, God will humble them, and lay them low: God beholdeth them a far off, he resists them and scatters them.

In Mal. 4. 1. saith the Prophet, Behold the day cometh that shall burn as an Oven, and all the proud, yea, all that do wickedly, shall be as stubble, and the day cometh that shall burn them up, saith the Lord of Hosts, and it shall leave them neither root nor branch, *Isa.* 2. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16. The day of the Lord shall be upon every one that is proud, and he shall be brought low, and upon all the high hills and mountains that are lifted up, upon every high tower and fenced wall, upon all the ships of *Tarshish*, and upon all pleasant pictures, and the loftiness of men shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low. Whatsoever it is that is proud and lofty, that lifts it self up against the Lord, it shall be thrown down, for pride must down: as Christ said of the Temple, not a stone of it shall be left, but it shall be utterly overthrown. The Jews were so proud that they despised the meanness and meekness of Christ and openly said in the pride of their hearts, We will not have this man to reign over us:

but

but what became of them? they were shortly after scattered throughout the world and destroyed, yea Jerusalem it self, that glorious City, utterly ruined and destroyed.

So likewise Moab and Ammon, Assyria and Nineveh, threatned for their pride, Zeph. 2. 9, 10. As I live, saith the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the Children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding of Nettles and Salt-pits, and a perpetual Desolation; the Ethiopian shall also be slain by the Sword, and I will stretch forth my hand against Assyria, and destroy it, and will make Nineveh a desolation and wilderness. And the reason of all this is given v. 10. This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the Lord of Hosts. Pride was the first fire-brand that set Sodom on fire, and will be the ruin and destruction of those that delight therein, 2 Sam. 22. 28. The eyes of the Lord are upon the haughty, that he may bring them down. And I beseech you consider, that pride is the forerunner of ruin and destruction, Hos. 5. 5. The pride of Israel doth testifie to his face, therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity, Judah also shall fall with them. As Israel proud is, so is Judah, so is England, the daughters of England are proud and haughty, walking with stretched forth necks, painted, and spotted

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of his people presently after. So Absalom and Adonijah by pride aspire and seek to set themselves in the Throne, and thereby bring destruction upon themselves: Pride loves to go before a fall, before destruction; if you find pride in the beginning of any thing, you shall certainly find destruction in the latter end. Pride preceded and went before the fall of our first parents, Gen. 3. 5. They would be like unto God, knowing good and evil; pride procured the Angels fall from heaven to hell, and will be the ruin of all those Kingdoms and Persons where it is imbraced and received, Luke 14, 11. Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased, and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. Be they particular Persons, Cities, Kingdoms, or whatsoever they are, that do exalt themselves through pride, God will throw them down, Jer 52. 29, 30, 31, 32. Babylon has been proud against the Lord, and against the Holy one of Israel; therefore shall her young men fall in the streets, and all the men of war shall be cut off, saith the Lord: Behold I am against thee, O thou most proud, saith the Lord of Hosts; for the day is come and the time that I will visit thee, and the most proud shall stumble and fall, and none shall raise him up.

It is greatly to be feared that these three Nations of England, Scotland, and Ireland, have

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burning instead of beauty: their men shall fall by the sword, and their mighty men in war, and their gates shall lament & mourn; & she being desolate, shall sit upon the ground.

And God hath not only threatned and denounced his displeasue against the abominable sin of pride, but he hath likewise in all ages inflicted his judgements upon sundry particular persons, for their extraordinary delight in this sin. Many and fearful have been the plagues and most dreadful judgements which God in all ages hath poured out and inflicted upon those that have offended his Holy Majesty herein; as all Histories both sacred and prophane abundantly declare, for proof whereof take as it were but a taste of some, whereby it will clearly appear how wonderfully the Lord our God in all ages, times, and places of the World hath sorely punisht all those Nations, Countries, or People whatsoever, who through pride and arrogancy have lifted themselves up and rebelled against the great God of Heaven and Earth: As for instance, the Devil, who before was an Angel in heaven, who proudly presuming to set himself above the Lord, who is God over all, was for his pride cast down from heaven, and thrown into the bottomless pit of hell, into the lake which burneth with fire & brimstone for ever, where he is reserved, as

St.

St. Jude saith, Jude 6. In everlasting chains under darkness, unto the judgement of the great day. So likewise Adam, through the delusion of the devil, proudly desiring to be as God, knowing good and evil, was for this his wilful sin, for ever plunged both himself and all his posterity, into the gulph of woe and misery, and that for ever. So likewise Corah, Dathan, and Abiram, Num. 16. for their exceeding great pride in stirring up the people to rebellion, were swallowed up alive into the earth, they and all that appertained unto them: So in Gen. 11. The People of Babel going about to build them a Tower, whose top should reach up to heaven, thereby proudly intending to seat themselves even with God himself, were all confounded in a moment, and their work brought into confusion. So in 1 Sam. 17. Goliah that mighty Gyant, proudly defying the Armies of the living God, was shamefully slain by David the Servant of God with a small Stone out of a sling: So that great Antiochus intending to overthrow and spoil Jerusalem, and thereby spoil and destroy the Temple and Sanctuary of the Lord, and murther the people of God; was for this his pride overturned in his Chariot as he was riding to effect this his cursed design, and his belly burst asunder, out of which there crawled out most filthy, loathsome, stinking

worms;

worms: and in the end he so stunk, that both himself and his servants loathed the sight, & savour of his most loathsome Carcass, and thus ended this proud Tyrant his wretched life in woful misery. So Nebuchadnezzar in the 4th of Dan. for his pride was driven forth of his Kingdom, and constrained to eat Grass with the wild Beasts of the wilderness: So Saul for his pride and disobedience to God, had his Kingdom taken from him, and he in the end most desperatly slew himself upon the point of his own Sword: So likewise proud Haman in the 3d of Esther, seeking the just life of Mordecay & all the Jews, brought him at last to hang upon his own Gallows, which he himself had prepared for Mordecay. And as ye heard before, Jerusalems Pride brought ruin and destruction upon their own heads: So likewise the Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for their pride & contempt of the Lord, were suddenly destroyed by fire and brimstone, which the Lord rained down from heaven upon them, who as St. Jude saith, are by God set forth for example to them that shall yet presume to live ungodly; & the whole world except Noah and his family, were for their pride and wickedness against God drowned by an universal Deluge from Heaven. So that good King Hezekiah for his pride in shewing to the Ambassadors of Babylon his riches & treasure

treasure, and his Sons also, carried captive into Babylon. And likewise David, who was a man after Gods own heart, for his pride in numbring the people, contrary to the will & command of God, was sadly punished for the same, whereby and ten thousand of his people being slain with the pestilence, as you may read, 2 Sam. 24. 15. So likewise proud Pharaoh, in Exod. 14 for his pride against God, in pursuing the children of Israel, was drowned in the midst of the Sea, he and all his Host. And the proud Pharisee in the Gospel justifying himself in his own righteousness before the Lord, was for his pride reproved of the Lord, and rejected. So Herod in Acts 12. 21, 22. for attiring himself in sumptuous apparel, and not giving glory to the Lord, as it is in the 23 verse, immediately saith the word, the Angel of the Lord smote him, and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the Ghost, a fearful example for all proud persons to take notice of. So that wicked Jesabel of whom you have mention made before, in the midst of her pride and vanities, was thrown out of a window and dasht in pieces against the ground.

Many more such Examples I might give you of Gods heavy judgements against proud persons, but I shall conclude all with this one most fearful Example, which

A Gentlewoman of Antwerp, a very Rich Merchants Daughter, being invited to a wedding, she thereupon made great preparation for the decking her self in curious and costly attire, to which end she curled her hair, and dyed her locks, after which she painted her face with sundry Dynments to make her self seem more beautiful: But so curious was she that none could be had to make her cloaths fine enough for her: this Gentlewoman being priding her self in her glass, and could not make her cloaths sit fine enough for her curious fancy; at which she being in great rage, began to ban and curse most horridly, casting her cloaths under her feet, wishing the Devil might take her if ever she put on any of them again: whereupon immediatly upon the same the Devil by Gods just permission, transforming himself into the shape and likeness of a young-man, as brave and sinical as her self, in outward appearance, came unto her, pretending to be a Suitor to her, and seeing her thus passionate, and in such a pelting chafe, he demanded of her the cause thereof, which she making known to him, he presently desired her to permit him to dress her, promising to her that he would diligently please her in all respects; and thereupon he began to dress and adorn her after a most [illegible] and curious manner, [illegible]

finished

finished to her great content and liking: insomuch that she beholding her self in a glass as the Devil bid her, became greatly taken and enamoured with her person: after which saluting one another, the Devil wrung her neck asunder from her shoulders, so that she died most miserably, her body, which she had before so spotted, being metamorphosed most strangely into black and blew colours, most loathsome to behold: and her face which was before so amorous, became so loathsome, fearful, and deformed, that it was a dreadful spectacle to behold: thereupon a rich coffin was provided by her friends, and her loathsome carcase put therein, and covered with most rich and costly cloaths: at the time appointed for the Burial of her vile body, four men immediately assay'd to lift up the corps, but could not possibly stir it; after which six men assay'd to take it up, but could not once so much as move it from the ground; whereat the standers by greatly marvelling, caused the coffin to be opened, and the body of this proud creature being taken away (none knew how) instead thereof they found in the Coffin a black Cat, very loathsome and deformed to behold, setting a Ruff, and crisping and curling of hair, to the great fear, horrour, and amazement of the beholders.

Thus Christian Reader have I briefly shew-

ed your this sad and true Example of Gods wrath against pride, and having now presented to your view this sad and woful spectacle, my desire and advice is, that all that reads and hears of it, especially those that delights them in painting & decking themselves up in pride, as this proud person did, that by considering and looking upon this sad example, instead of looking in their own looking-glass, they may behold and see their own sins, and be ashamed of their evil ways, for fearlest the same God, who is yesterday and for ever the same, inflict upon them the like, if not more severe punishments.

O consider this and tremble all ye proud Gallants, that pin and paint, powder and trim your selves up in pride and vanity, God hath told you these things to forewarn you? But if you will still persist and go on in your pride, all these things, and worse than all these shall come upon you, and that suddenly, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, Isa. 23. 9. The Lord of Hosts hath purposed to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth. He hath purposed, and he will do it, unless you repent.

You have seen now what this sin of Pride is, together with the sore evils thereof, and the sad judgements that are threatned against it in the Word of God, with the heavy calamities

nities that hath betaken Angels, Kingdoms, and Persons for this Sin of Pride: O then I beseech you and intreat you in the fear of the Lord, as you love your own souls, and as you would not have these sad judgements & calamities to befal you, loath this accursed sin and abhor it. How many poor members of Jesus Christ might be fed and cloathed with such things as are daily and hourly needlessly & superfluously wasted and spent in pride and vanity, I dare boldly say, that there need not be a poor man or woman in England that should want either food to eat, or cloaths to put on, if but the tenth part of what is vainly spent in pride and wickedness, might be spared and given to the poor. How many thousands are there spent yearly to maintain this accursed and abominable Sin of Pride. How many are there, that if a poor man want but a penny, or a farthing, will say they have it not? But when the Devil prompts them and to pride and to paint themselves, curl and powder their Locks, and to spot their Faces with black patches, they can find money enough. Nay there are whole Faces God hath made fair and beauteous, and yet, as though God had not done his part by them, or as if they could mend Gods workmanship, they spend both their time and estates to paint and adorn themselves, and thereby

become loathsome in the Eyes of the Lord: as that accursed wretch proud Jezabel, 2 Kings 6, 30, Jezabel painted her face, and tyred her head, and she was drawn out of the very window where she was painting and pranking herself in her pride, and so dashed in pieces against the stones, and trodden under foot to death, and the Dogs eat her flesh so that nothing remained of her.

O that our proud Ladies would think upon this, they walk upon Belconies, and stand at their doors, glorying in their pride and shame, enticing their lovers by their naked breasts, and painted faces, to wantonness and lasciviousness; For know this, that your painting & your powdering your locks and spotting your faces, are but snares and baits for lusts and wantonness, and that this sin of yours is monstrous and intolerable. I remember notable story of an ancient man, who coming through Alexandria, passed by a woman in a very spruce and wanton dress, whereupon the good old man presently fell a weeping and being asked the reason thereof, he answered, saying, That he wept for two things: First, for the danger that woman's soul was in. Secondly, To see what a vile wretch he had been, in that he had not taken so much care and pains to serve and please God as this wicked woman did to please her wanton lusts and affections.

I beseech you therefore for the Lords sake consider the danger your poor Souls are in, and forsake this cursed sin of pride, and for your adorning, let it be such as the Apostle Peter commands in your wear, 1 Peter. 3. 34. Whose adorning (saith he) let it be in the hidden man of the heart, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For (saith the Apostle in the 5. v.) after this manner in the old time, the holy women, who trusted in God, adorned themselves.

Now to conclude all, as the Apostle saith in Rom. 13. 14. Let us walk honestly as in the day, not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonnessn, not in strife and envy, not in pride and painting. But as he saith, so say I, put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the Flesh to fulfil the lusts thereof O christians, if you did but know what a lovely and comely garment Christ is, I am confident you would cast away all your pride and vanity to put on Christ: Look then upon Jesus Christ with an Eye of Faith, through the Glass of the Scripture, and see how this white Garment of Christ doth become you, and forsake all your pride to put on Christ, for I am sure no cloathing can so well become a Christian, as the white Robes of Christ: which are these, Humility, Temperance, Patience, Vertue,

Brotherly-kindness, Love and Holiness, which is acceptable in the Sight of God. To whom be Praise and Glory, both in heaven and earth, throughout all Ages, world without end: Amen.

FINIS.

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